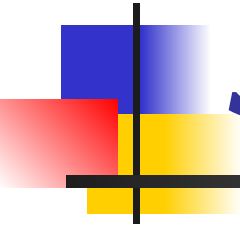


# *The Theory of Functional Styles*





# Points for discussion:

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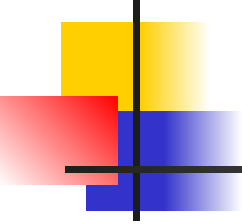
- The notion of style in functional stylistics.
- Correlation of style norm and function in the language.
- An overview of functional style systems.
- Distinctive linguistic features of the major functional styles of English.

# The meanings of the term "style"



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- A variety of the national language traditionally used in one of the socially identifiable spheres of life that is characterized by a particular set of linguistic features, including vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation
- Generally accepted linguistic identity of oral and written units of discourse, such as public speech, a lecture, a friendly letter, a newspaper article, etc.
- Individual manner of expression determined by personal factors



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**The norm is the actual use of the general rules of usage of language elements by individual speakers under specific conditions of communication**



# Various realizations of the language structure according to I.V.Arnold

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structure : : norm : : individual use

national norm : : dialect

neutral style : : colloquial style : : bookish  
style

literary correct : : common colloquial

# A description of functional styles based on the combination of the linguistic functions they fulfill

Function/ Style	intellectual	pragmatic	emotive	phatic	aesthetic
oratorical	+	+	+	+	+
colloquial	+	+	+	+	-
poetic	+	-	+	-	+
publicist and newspaper	+	+	+	-	-
official	+	+	-	-	-
scientific	+	-	-	-	-



# Classification of the functional styles by **I. R. Galperin**

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- **The Belles-Lettres Style:** poetry; emotive prose; the language of the drama.
- **Publicist Style:** oratory and speeches; the essay; articles.
- **Newspaper Style:** brief news items; headlines; advertisements and announcements; the editorial.
- **Scientific Prose Style.**
- **The Style of Official documents:** business documents; legal documents; the language of diplomacy; military documents



# Classification of the functional styles by **M. D. Kuznetz** and **Y. M. Skrebnev**

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- **Literary or Bookish Style:**
  - publicist style;
  - scientific (technological) style;
  - official documents.
- **Free («Colloquial») Style:**
  - literary colloquial style;
  - familiar colloquial style.





# Classification of the functional styles by **I. V. Arnold**

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- **Colloquial Styles:**
  - literary colloquial;
  - familiar colloquial;
  - common colloquial.
- **Literary Bookish Styles:**
  - scientific;
  - official documents;
  - publicist (newspaper);
  - oratorical;
  - poetic.



# Classification of the functional styles by **A. N. Morokhovsky**

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- **Official business style.**
- **Scientific-professional style.**
- **Publicist style.**
- **Literary colloquial style.**
- **Familiar colloquial style.**



# Literary colloquial style

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- Phonetic features
  - standard pronunciation
  - phonetic compression: *it's, don't, I've*
  - omission of unaccented elements: *you know him?*
- Morphological features
  - use of evaluative suffixes: *deary, duckie.*
  - prevalence of active and finite verb forms.
- Syntactical features
  - simple sentences with participial and infinitive constructions and parentheses.
  - syntactically correct utterances within the literary norm.
  - syntactical compression, simplicity of syntactical connection.
  - grammar forms for emphatic purposes.
  - decomposition and ellipsis of sentences in a dialogue.
  - use of special colloquial phrases, e.g. *that friend of yours.*



# Literary colloquial style

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- Lexical features
  - Wide range of vocabulary : formal and informal, neutral and bookish, terms etc.
  - Basic stock of communicative vocabulary—stylistically neutral.
  - Use of socially accepted contracted forms and abbreviations: *fridge, ice, TV, CD*
  - Use of conversational formulas: *nice to see you, my pleasure, on behalf of, etc.*
  - Extensive use of intensifiers and gap-fillers: *absolutely, definitely, kind of, etc.*
  - Use of interjections and exclamations: *Dear me, My God, well, why, now, oh.*
  - Extensive use of phrasal verbs: *let sb down, put up with, stand sb up.*
  - Use of words of indefinite meaning like *thing, stuff.*
  - Avoidance of slang, vulgarisms, dialect words, jargon.
  - Use of phraseological expressions, idioms and figures of speech.



# Literary colloquial style

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- Compositional features
- written and spoken varieties: dialogue, monologue, personal letters, diaries, essays, articles, etc.
- Prepared types of texts with logical composition, to a certain extent determined by conventional forms (letters, Presentations, articles, interviews).
- Spontaneous types have a loose structure, relative coherence and uniformity of form and content



# Familiar colloquial style

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- Phonetic features
  - Casual and often careless pronunciation, use of deviant forms: *gonna, whatcha, dunno*.
  - Use of reduced and contracted forms: *you're, they've, etc.*
  - Omission of unaccented elements due to quick tempo: *you hear me?*
  - Emphasis on intonation as a semantic and stylistic instrument.
  - Use of onomatopoeic words: *whoosh, hush, stop yodelling, yum, yak*.
- Morphological features

Use of evaluative suffixes, nonce words: *baldish, mawkish, moody, hanky-panky, helter-skelter, okeydoke*.



# Familiar colloquial style

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- Syntactical features
  - Use of simple short sentences.
  - Dialogues of the question-answer type.
  - Use of echo questions, parallel structures, repetitions of various kinds.
  - In complex sentences - asyndetic coordination.
  - Coordination is used more often than subordination, repeated use of conjunction *and*.
  - Extensive use of ellipsis, including the subject of the sentence: *Can't say anything.*
  - Extensive use of syntactic tautology: *That girl, she was something else!*
  - Abundance of gap-fillers and parenthetical elements: *sure, indeed, to be more exact, okay, well.*



# Familiar colloquial style

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## Lexical features

- Combination of neutral, familiar and low colloquial vocabulary, including slang, vulgar and taboo words.
- Extensive use of words of general meaning: *guy, job, get, do, fix, affair.*
- Use of the same word in different meanings: *'some' meaning good: some guy! some game!*
- Abundance of specific colloquial interjections: *boy, wow, hey, there, ahoy*
- Use of hyperbole, epithets, evaluative vocabulary, trite metaphors and simile: *if you say it once more I'll kill you, as old as the hills, horrid, awesome, etc.*
- Tautological substitution: *you-baby, Johnny-boy.*
- Mixture of curse words and euphemisms: *damn, dash, darned, shoot.*
- Extensive use of collocations and phrasal verbs: *to turn in=to go to bed.*





# Familiar colloquial style

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- Compositional features
- Use of deviant language on all levels.
- Strong emotional coloring.
- Loose syntactical organization of an utterance.
- Frequently little coherence or adherence to the topic.
- No special compositional patterns.



# Publicist (media) style

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- Phonetic features (in oratory)
  - Standard pronunciation, use of prosody as a means of conveying shades of meaning, overtones and emotions.
  - Phonetic compression.
- Morphological features
  - Frequent use of non-finite verb forms: gerund, participle, infinitive.
  - Use of non-perfect verb forms.
  - Omission of articles, link verbs, auxiliaries, pronouns, especially in headlines and news items.



# Publicist (media) style

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- Syntactical features
  - In oratory speech: use of rhetorical questions, interrogatives.
  - In headlines: use of impersonal sentences, elliptical constructions, interrogative sentences, infinitive complexes and attributive groups.
  - In news items and articles: comprise one or two, rarely three, sentences.
  - Absence of complex coordination.
  - Use of prepositional phrases.
  - Absence of exclamatory sentences, break-in-the narrative, other expressively charged constructions.
  - Articles reflect syntactical organization and logical arrangement of sentences



# Publicist (media) style

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- Lexical features
  - Newspaper cliches and set phrases.
  - Terminological variety: scientific, sports, political, technical, etc.
  - Abbreviations and acronyms.
  - Numerous proper names, toponyms, anthroponyms, names of enterprises, institutions, international words, dates and figures.
  - Abstract notion words, elevated and bookish words.
  - In headlines: frequent use of pun, violated phraseology, vivid stylistic devices.
  - In oratory speech: words of elevated and bookish character, colloquial words and phrases, frequent use of metaphor, alliteration, allusion, irony, etc.
  - Use of conventional forms of address and trite phases.



# Publicist (media) style

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- Compositional features
  - Text arrangement is marked by precision, logic and expressive power.
  - Carefully selected vocabulary.
  - Variety of topics.
  - Wide use of quotations, direct speech and represented speech.
  - Use of parallel constructions.
  - In oratory: simplicity of structural expression, clarity of message, argumentative power.
  - In headlines: use of devices to arrest attention: rhyme, pun, puzzle, high degree of compression, graphical means.
  - In news items and articles: strict arrangement of titles and subtitles, emphasis on the headline.
  - Careful subdivision into paragraphs, clearly defined position of the sections of an article

# The style of official documents



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- Syntactical features
  - Use of long complex sentences with several types of coordination and subordination (up to 70% of the text).
  - Use of passive and participial constructions, numerous connectives.
  - Use of objects, attributes and all sorts of modifiers.
  - Extensive use of detached constructions and parenthesis.
  - Use of participle I and participle II as openers in the initial expository statement.
  - Combining several pronouncements into one sentence.
  - Information texts are based on standard normative syntax reasonably simplified.

# The style of official documents



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- Lexical features
  - Prevalence of stylistically neutral and bookish vocabulary.
  - Use of terminology, e.g. legal: *acquittal, testimony*; commercial: *advance payment, insurance, wholesale*, etc.
  - Use of proper names (names of enterprises, companies, etc.) and titles.
  - Abstraction of persons, e.g. use of *party* instead of the name.
  - Officialese vocabulary: clichés, opening and conclusive phrases.
  - Conventional and archaic forms and words: *hereof, thereto, thereby*.
  - Foreign words, especially Latin and French: *status quo, force majeure, persona non grata*.
  - Abbreviations, contractions, conventional symbols: *M. P., Ltd, \$*, etc.
  - Use of words in their primary denotative meaning.
  - Absence of tropes, no evaluative and emotive colouring of vocabulary. Seldom use of substitute words: *it, one, that*.

# The style of official documents



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- Compositional features
  - Special compositional design: coded graphical layout, clear-cut subdivision of texts into units of information; logical arrangement of these units, order-of-priority organization of content and information.
  - Conventional composition of treaties, agreements, protocols, etc.: division into two parts, a preamble and a main part.
  - Use of stereotyped, official phraseology.
  - Accurate use of punctuation.
  - Generally objective, concrete, unemotional and impersonal style of narration.





# Scientific/academic style

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- Morphological features
- Terminological word building and word-derivation: neologism formation by affixation and conversion.
- Restricted use of finite verb forms.
- Use of '**the author's we**' instead of I.
- Frequent use of impersonal constructions



# Scientific/academic style

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## ■ **Syntactical features**

- Complete and standard syntactical mode of expression.
- Direct word order.
- Use of lengthy sentences with subordinate clauses.
- Extensive use of participial, gerundial and infinitive complexes.
- Extensive use of adverbial and prepositional phrases.
- Frequent use of parenthesis introduced by a dash.
- Abundance of attributive groups with a descriptive function.
- Use of prepositional attributive groups instead of the descriptive *of* phrase.
- Avoidance of ellipsis, use of conjunctions like 'that' and 'which'.
- Prevalence of nominal constructions over the verbal ones for generalisation.
- Frequent use of passive and non-finite verb forms to achieve impersonality.
- Use of impersonal forms and sentences such as *mention should be made, it can be inferred, assuming that, etc.*



# Scientific/academic style

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- Lexical features
  - Extensive use of bookish words e. g. *presume, infer, preconception, cognitive*.
  - Abundance of scientific terminology and phraseology.
  - Use of words in their primary dictionary meaning, restricted use of connotative contextual meanings.
  - Use of numerous neologisms.
  - Abundance of proper names.
  - Restricted use of emotive colouring, interjections, expressive phraseology, phrasal verbs, colloquial vocabulary.
  - Seldom use of tropes, such as metaphor, hyperbole, simile, etc.



# Scientific/academic style

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- Compositional features

- Types of texts compositionally depend on the scientific genre: monograph, article, thesis, etc.
- Scientific proper and technical texts: highly formalized text with the prevalence of formulae, tables, diagrams supplied with concise commentary phrases.
- In humanitarian texts (history, philosophy): descriptive narration, supplied with argumentation and interpretation.
- Logical and consistent narration, sequential presentation of material and facts.
- Extensive use of citation, references and foot-notes.
- Restricted use of expressive means and stylistic devices.
- Extensive use of conventional set phrases to emphasise the logical character of the narration, e. g. *as we have seen, in conclusion, finally, as mentioned above.*
- Definite structural arrangement in a hierarchical order: introduction, chapters, paragraphs, conclusion.
- Special set of connective phrases and words to sustain coherence and logic, such as *consequently, on the contrary, likewise.*
- Extensive use of double conjunctions like *as... as, either... or, both... and,* etc.
- Compositionally arranged sentence patterns: postulatory (at the beginning), argumentative (in the central part), formulative (in the conclusion).